NFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY USSR (Ukrainian SSR) REPORT NO.

CS -311/04069-64

SUBJECT

Demonstration in Kiev in Spring of 1963

DATE DISTR.

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REFERENCES

DATE OF

Spring 1963

INFO. PLACE &

DATE ACQ.

FIELD REPORT NO.

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SOURCE: An American of Ukrainian birth (B), from a recent arrival from the USSR for permanent residence in the US. Appraisal of Content: 3.

- 1. A celebration in commemoration of the anniversary of the birth of Ukrainian writer Lesya Ukrainka was planned by the Ukrainians in the spring of 1963. At the last moment the celebration, which was to be held in a Kiev park, was cancelled by local Soviet authorities. As a consequence, young Ukrainians who had gathered for the occasion marched out into the streets and began a demonstration. When their leader was arrested by the militia the young demonstrators promptly went to the militia office to demand his release. This was granted but several days later most of those involved in the demonstration were released from their places of employment and those who were students began to encounter various difficulties in their respective universities.
- 2. The students then drew up a petition to the CC/CPSU demanding the reemployment of demonstrators who had been fired and an end of discrimination against the students involved. Many prominent Soviet Ukrainians signed the petition, including the late Maksym Ryskyy who told the students that he had been visited by local authorities and warned not to sign the petition in the event he was contacted by the students.

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